DEEP PURPLE ROOTS

RITCHIE BLACKMORE, after a fast and furious career during the early and mid sixties, had been in Germany doing very little for about a year. At the beginning of 1966, a telegram brought him back to London for discussions about a new group which, after a degree of adjusement, would become DEEP PURPLE. (For full details of his pre and post-Purple careers, see family trees on 'Screaming Lord Sutch', 'Outlaws and Pirates' & 'Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow').

NICK SIMPER began his professional career with local stars Buddy Britten & The Regents (64 to 65). Then joined Johnny Kidd & The Pirates (Feb to Oct 1966) and after Kidd died, The Pirates (Dec 66 - May 67). Was then in both Screaming Lord Sutch and Billie Davis backing groups until joining the Flowerpot Men touring group in October 1967. (For explicit fax and info, see 'Lord Sutch' and 'Outlaws/Pirates' family trees).

ARTWOODS 1963 TO SUMMER 1967

Excellent R&B/soul band; evolved - a-ka Red Bludd's Blues icians (Lord/Griffiths/Wood/Don Wilson for Decca, and one for Parlophone, but remained on same rung lute this was an embarrassing mistake, which nailed them.

JON LORD (keyboards) · DEREK GRIFFITHS (guitar, sessions) · ART WOOD (vocals, solo) · MALCOLM POOL (bass, sessions) · KEEF HARTLEY (drums, John Mayall)

IAN GILLAN born 19.8.45 at Hounslow Middlesex. First group, The Moonshiners, lasted from Sept to Dec 1962, when over Stones residency at Richmond Station Hotel, playing blues/R&B. Formed jazz-blues group The Hickies to fulfil lately joined Wainwrights Gentlemen - a Harrow-based six piece. Didn't socialise with the band and retains only hazy Memories. Lose his job towards the end, so depended on singing for livelihood. Invited to join Episode Six in May 1965. Accepted. Brian Connolly, later of Sweet, replaced him in Wainwrights Gentlemen.

ROGER GLOVER born 30.11.45 at Brecon South Wales. Attended Harrow County School, where two big groups were The Madisons (including Lander, Shields and him) and The Lightnings. As the name of the more prestigious Lightnings. Played weddings, youth clubs, boy scout huts. Idolised Shane Fenton & the Fentones. Glover went to Hornsey Art School. The Lightnings changed name to Episode Six.

FLOWERPOT MEN OCT 1967 TO FEB 1968

'Let's go to San Francisco'. The record was released as The Flowerpot Men - but as it was a session-man Tin Pan Alley hit, no group existed - so Carter Lewis leased the name to Tony Burrows (then in The Ivy League - another Carter Lewis invention), who put together a touring group to exploit the hit. As Billie Davis had entered a gig slump, Burrows employed her band (Simper/Little/Peck and Billy Davidson) who, hospitalised for tonsillectomy, was replaced by Jon Lord in January 1968). They worked every night - one nighters, theatres, ballrooms - milking the hit for all it was worth. Lord and Simper both left on 24th Feb 1968

In September 1967, the Carter Lewis Singing-Songwriting team reached #4 with their flower-power cash-in group, now fell upon Lord, who pulled in his mate Nick Simper and persuaded Blackmore to return.... and Ritchie Woodman - a living legend from the 21s coffee bar days, day's band, and was the first English guy to have a double bass-drum kit). Nick Simper: "Nobody had heard of his reputation....I mean, I was just overawed to shake his hand".

JON LORD (keyboards) · NICK SIMPER (bass) · CARLO LITTLE (drums, Lord Sutch) · GED PECK (guitar, Warhorse) · TONY BURROWS (vocals, Sessions) · ROBIN SHAW (vocals, to White Plains) · PETE NELSON (vocals) · NEIL LANDON (vocals, to Fat Mattress)

IAN PAICE, born Hounslow on 29th June 1948, and **ROD EVANS** were both in THE MAZE prior to joining Deep Purple. Paice began gigging in semi-pro group Georgie and the Rave Ons, who later became the Shindigs. Worked as civil servant by day. Quit day job to join M15, who played extensively on the Continent, esp in Italy and Hamburg. Rod Evans was their vocalist. Subsequently changed name to The Maze. Others in the group were Eric Keene, Chris Banham, and Roger Lewis. The Maze were still an active unit when Evans auditioned for Purple.

Deep Purple became one of the most popular and influential groups there ever was. That they ever got off the ground was a miracle. Here in a nutshell is what happened: Tony Edwards, who had a family textile business, approached John Colletta, an advertising consultant, with a view to financing and managing a pop group. "We were very green; we knew there was money in the business, but we didn't know how much". Edwards had been introduced to Chris Curtis by Vicki Wickham. Curtis, formerly drummer in The Searchers, wanted to front a new band - and had convinced Edwards to back him. They'd contacted Ritchie Blackmore, then a temporarily lapsed legend, and Jon Lord, into whose flat Curtis had moved himself. Ritchie: "I'd gone to Germany with Neil Christian, had met a girl and decided to stay there. For about a year I was sitting around, living off immoral earnings - I didn't do a thing except practise guitar. Then I got a telegram asking me to return to England to join a new group Chris Curtis was forming". He flew over, checked the situation, didn't dig it, copped his expenses, and flew back.

DAVID COVERDALE born Saltburn 22nd Sept 1951. Was in DENVER MULE at art college (67/8), then the SKYLINERS, who changed their name to THE GOVERNMENT. The Government supported Purple at Sheffield University in August 69, and Lord took Coverdale's phone number in case Gillan didn't work out. Then went to Denmark with HARVEST, returned to join RIVER'S INVITATION, and finally formed THE FABULOSA BROTHERS in early 1973. Sent an audition tape when Purple were on the prowl for a new singer. "They accepted me on the strength of one nights singing and a rubbish tape".

ROUNDABOUT FEB TO MAR 1968

With the Hammond organ and everything, and the farmhouse cost something like £50 a week without food". They still didn't have a singer, and to complicate matters further, Woodman was ill at ease with what he called their "circus music". So he had to be given the elbow in a specially convened meeting with the management. Meanwhile, Rod Evans arrived to audition, and Ritchie remembered him from The Maze - so he was rolled in, as was Ian Paice, the young drummer he'd brought along for the ride. They set to it - using Vanilla Fudge as their model. Jon Lord: "I'd seen them at the Speakeasy in 1967 and they'd knocked me out; we were going to be an English Vanilla Fudge, we thought".

Tony Edwards: "We put them into a farmhouse and got the equipment together - we spent about £7000 on it. Moody had been in Shapu, Juicy Lucy and Frankie Miller's Band, among others. Dowle had been with Brian Auger and Streetwalkers. Murray was in Colosseum and National Health. Marsden had been in a number of groups including UFO, Wild Turkey, Cozy Powell and P.A.L.

replaced by CHRIS CURTIS (vocals) · DAVE CURTIS (vocals, to Bodast) · BOBBY WOODMAN (drums) · NICK SIMPER (bass/vocals) · JON LORD (keyboards) · RITCHIE BLACKMORE (guitar)

EPISODE SIX #1 OCTOBER 1963 TO MAY 1965

Roger Glover: "We turned pro in April 1965, when we went to Germany... that was 'the big break' - a month's club work, which turned out to be a terrible sweat-shop thing, of course. In fact, I contracted acute peritonitis there and ended up in hospital. I had been semi-pro up to that point, but some of the others had been full-pro for some time - this being a stock-in-trade was melodic ballads with lavish harmonies ....if only they'd had a hit they could have become huge.

"When we went to Germany, we had a new manager, Helmut Gordon, who used to manage The Who (and was involved in legal hassles at the time). He got us a record deal with Pye Records: 3% of one per cent between Six of us!!! Then he left, and his protégé took over the management: Gloria Bristow, with whom we stayed right up until the group split".

ROGER GLOVER (bass) · TONY LANDER (lead guitar) · GRAHAM CARTER-DIMMOCK (gtr/voc) · SHEILA CARTER-DIMMOCK (organ/voc) · HARVEY SHIELDS (drums) · ANDY ROSS (vocals, got married; quit music business)

EPISODE SIX #2 MAY 1965 TO SEPT 1967

Roger: "Ian joined and we began to make singles. We spell in Lebanon, which was awful..... playing background music to the clatter of one armed bandits. It almost split the band up, but we learned enough to buy a new Transit. I always remember.....that when we got back home, we used to do a lot of live work for them, and some of our records got in their chart....'Trumpets' reached #4".

This line-up cut 5 singles: 'Put yourself in my place'/'That's all I want' (Pye 7N 17018 · January 1966). 'I hear trumpets blow'/'True love is funny' (7N 17110 · April 1966). 'Here there and everywhere'/'Mighty Morris 10' (7N 17147 · August 1966). 'Love hate revenge'/'Baby baby baby' (7N 17244 · Feb 1967). 'Morning dew'/'Sunshine girl' (7N 17330 · June 1967).

Ian Gillan: "When we came home from Beirut, we had 3 singles in their top 10. Their chart was compiled by a couple of record shops out there. They didn't sell that many - but it was our first taste of stardom".

Met a Greek belly dancer in Beirut; quit the band to go off with her. Later split up; he's now in L.A. working as singer/songwriter.

ROGER GLOVER (bass) · IAN GILLAN (vocals) · TONY LANDER (lead guitar) · GRAHAM CARTER-DIMMOCK (gtr/vocals) · SHEILA CARTER-DIMMOCK (organ/vocals) · HARVEY SHIELDS (drums)

EPISODE SIX #3 SEPT 1967 TO JULY 1968

Still based in Harrow, and very popular in that area. The furthest north they got was Morecambe Pier (cop whack bread - £100). Until now, most of their records had been covers of US hits or album tracks but Glover wrote 'I can see through you'. After this, his first A-side, he began collaborating with Gillan (their first recorded joint effort being 'Mr Universe'). When heavier music came into vogue, they played the same stuff in their stage act - but with the volume up beyond pain level!

This line-up cut two singles: 'I can see through you'/'When I fall in love' (7N 17376 · October 1967) and 'Little one'/'Wide smiles' (MGM 1409 · May 1968). As well as moving over to MGM Records (for just this one single), they abbreviated their name to The Episode (again for one single only). Sheila made a solo single: 'I will warm your heart'. Only 4 Episode Six singles were ever released in USA - all on different labels (Warners, Elektra, Compass and Chapter One). None created demand for North American tour.

ROGER GLOVER (bass) · IAN GILLAN (vocals) · TONY LANDER (lead guitar) · GRAHAM CARTER-DIMMOCK (gtr/vocals) · SHEILA CARTER-DIMMOCK (organ/vocals) · JOHN KERRISON (drums, Following a dressing-room argument with the others (at The Boathouse, Kew), he set up his kit at the wrong end of the hall and did the gig several yards away from the band.

TRAPEZE #1 1968 TO JUNE 1973

Glenn Hughes left school at 15 and joined local Birmingham group The News, playing lead guitar. Moved to bass with Finders Keepers. The original Trapeze was a five piece and as such recorded first album for Moody Blues Threshold label: 'TRAPEZE' (THS 2 · May 1970). Lineup: Terry Rowley and John Jones, they recorded and toured as a trio. Two more albums 'MEDUSA' (THS 4 · Nov 1970) and 'YOU ARE THE MUSIC....WE'RE JUST THE BAND (THS 8 · Nov 1972), plus a US only compilation 'FINAL SWING' (THS 11 · June 1973). Toured US extensively, supporting the Moody Blues. Hughes declined offer to join the embryonic E.L.O.

During last three months Hughes played lead gtr & Peter Mackie joined on bass.

DAVE HOLLAND (drums) · MEL GALLEY (guitar/vocals) · GLENN HUGHES (bass/vocals)

DEEP PURPLE #1 MARCH 1968 TO JULY 1969

Using the name Roundabout for the first and last time, they did a quick warm-up tour in Scandinavia: First gig at Tastrup, Denmark on 20th April. First album cut in 18 hours, on 4 track. It was a smash in America, 10th August 68. Concentrated on America with two extensive US tours, but US label (Tetragrammaton) folded, causing 18 month legal dispute period when progress there was halted. Had to begin concentrated assault on Europe. Pundits invariably cite line-up #2 as the best - but I prefer this pioneering unit.

ROD EVANS (vocals, formed Captain Beyond (See Iron Butterfly family tree)) · NICK SIMPER (bass) · JON LORD (keyboards) · IAN PAICE (drums) · RITCHIE BLACKMORE (guitar)

EPISODE SIX #4 JULY 1968 TO JULY 1969

They switched to Chapter One label for the final phase of their sadly unsuccessful recording career. On recommendation of Mick Underwood (who had been with Ritchie in the Outlaws), Jon Lord and Ritchie Blackmore went to see Ian Gillan singing with Episode Six at Woodford - and offered him the Deep Purple job, which he accepted. Roger subsequently went with him, and was replaced by Tony Dangerfield, wherevpon Episode Six carried on for a few months more - eventually folding in the face of insurmountable odds.

Cut two singles: 'Lucky sunday'/'Mr Universe' (Chapter One CH 103 · Oct 1968) and 'Mozart versus the rest'/'Jak d'or' (CH 104 · Feb 1969). Through Les Reed, owner of Chapter One, they contributed to soundtrack of 'Les Bicyclettes de Belsige' in March 1969.

When Episode Six folded, Tony Lander started an interior decorating business; Graham became an agent, sending bands out to the Middle East; Sheila got married to Tom Marshall of Harmony Grass; Mick Underwood, who had been in The Outlaws and the Herd, became founder-member of Quatermass, which was launched on the first Glover and Gillan had to pay Gloria Bristow for breaching their Episode Six contract and recording with Purple.

ROGER GLOVER (bass) · IAN GILLAN (vocals) · TONY LANDER (guitar, left music business) · GRAHAM CARTER-DIMMOCK (gtr/vocals) · MICK UNDERWOOD (drums, to Quatermass) · SHEILA CARTER-DIMMOCK (organ/vocals)

ZEPHYR 1967 TO 1972

Bolin fled Sioux City, one hour ahead of the law, and set up residence in Denver Colorado, (CPE 4510 · 1970). Featured Bolin, the Givens, John Faris on organ/sax and voc, and Robie Chamberlin on drums. Chamberlin was replaced by Bobby Berge for 'GOING BACK TO COLORADO' (Warners WS 1897 · 1971). Bolin then left and was replaced by Mick Abrahams (ex Blues Band and Jethro Tull). Lineup: Givens, Abrahams, and assorted others (Jim Swoboda, John Alpine and P.M. Wooten) cut 'SUNSET RIDE' (BS 2603 · 1972).

Nick Simper joined Marsha Hunt Band before returning to Lord Sutch for a short spell. Then formed Warhorse (Aug 70 - May 74), who made 2 albums for Vertigo. Spent the next four years doing freelance session and gigs before forming new band PANDANGO in April 1978. Line-up is Nick Simper (bass/vocals), Ian Wallace (drums/vocals), Steve Byrd (guitar/vocals). Spent February 79 in Germany, recording album for April release on European-based Shark label.

TOMMY BOLIN (guitars) · CANDY GIVENS (piano/voc/harp) · DAVID GIVENS (bass/vocals) · VARIOUS OTHERS (assorted)

Reformed Zephyr in early 1977

DEEP PURPLE #2 JULY 1969 TO JUNE 1973

On £25 a week definite as opposed to £10 probably, Glover and Gillan played their first Purple gig at the Speakeasy in August 1969. The fee: £75. Rocketed to a peak of commercial activity, working relentlessly. Inevitably the initial magic dissolved and frictions developed. Gillan gave his last gig in Oct 72, but was persuaded to delay departure. My only memories of ex-Purple are happy ones.

Gillan and Glover join Deep Purple. The facts. Roger Glover: "Ian accepted an invitation to join and, of course, there were terrible scenes with Gloria Bristow and the band. Then Ian called me and suggested that I help him write some songs for Purple. So I said yes. I mean, we were so broke at the time. The first time I heard our songs, he didn't like them, but asked if I wanted to do a session that evening. Of course, I said yes because I knew it meant money!

I did the session (which was the single 'Hallelujah' at Kingsway Studios) and made a few constructive suggestions - and then, to my astonishment, they offered me the gig as bass player. I turned it down..... which they could not believe! I was just being loyal to Episode Six because Gloria's thoughts about it were not that far from mine. Gloria sued both of us and we had to borrow several thousand pounds to pay her and the band off. The case was eventually settled out of court".

JON LORD (keyboards) · IAN PAICE (drums) · RITCHIE BLACKMORE (guitar) · ROGER GLOVER (bass) · IAN GILLAN (vocals)

Left the group June 73, originally to be A&R man for Purple label. Concentrated on producing; enjoyed great success with Elf, Nazareth, Rory Gallagher, David Coverdale, Ian Gillan, Judas Priest, Status Quo, among others. Commissioned to write 'THE BUTTERFLY BALL', which blossomed into a book, film and Albert Hall performance from the original album (Purple TPSA 7514 · Nov 1974). Released one solo album, 'ELEMENTS' (Polydor 2391 306 · April 1978). Continues to write/produce prolifically.

Ritchie quit in May 1975 and formed RITCHIE BLACKMORE'S RAINBOW (See his own family tree for unexpurgated details).

DEEP PURPLE ALBUM DISCOGRAPHY:

Title/original UK catalogue number and release date/highest UK and US poss.

Line-up #1:
'SHADES OF DEEP PURPLE'.. Parlophone PCS 7055 · September 68 · —UK/#24 US
'BOOK OF TALIESYN'..... Harvest SHVL 751 · July 1969 · —UK/#54 US
'DEEP PURPLE'..... SHVL 759 · November 69 · —UK/#162US

Line-up #2:
'CONCERTO FOR GROUP AND ORCHESTRA' SHVL 767 · January 1970 · —UK/#149 US
'DEEP PURPLE IN ROCK'..... SHVL 777 · June 1970 · #4 UK/#143 US
'FIREBALL'..... SHVL 793 · September 71 · #1 UK/#32 US
'MACHINE HEAD'..... Purple Records TPSA 7501 · April 1972 · #1 UK/#7 US
'MADE IN JAPAN' (live double)..... TSP 351 · December 72 · #16 UK/#6 US
'WHO DO WE THINK WE ARE'..... TPSA 7508 · February 73 · #4 UK/#15 US

Line-up #3:
'BURN'..... TPS 3505 · February 74 · #3 UK/#9 US
'STORMBRINGER'..... TPS 3508 · November 74 · #6 UK/#26 US

Line-up #4:
'COME TASTE THE BAND'..... TPSA 7515 · October 75 · —UK/#43 US

Compilations/barrel-scrapings/exploitation albums:
'PURPLE PASSAGES'.... US Warners double 2LS 2644 · November 76 · —UK/#57 US
'24 CARAT PURPLE'..... TPSM 2002 · May 1975 · Didn't chart
'MADE IN EUROPE' (line-up #3)..... TPSA 7517 · November 76 · #12 UK/#48 US
'LAST CONCERT IN JAPAN'..... Japan only P10370 W · September 77 · Didn't chart
'POWERHOUSE' (line-up #2)..... TPS 3510 · January 78 · Didn't chart
'SINGLES: As & Bs'..... Harvest SHSM 2026 · July 1978 · Didn't chart

DEEP PURPLE SINGLES DISCOGRAPHY - UK RELEASES:

Line-up #1 'Hush'/'One more rainy day'. Parlophone R 5708 · June 1968 · nowhere
'Emmaretta'/'Wring that neck'..... R 5763 · February 69 · nowhere
Line-up #2 'Hallelujah'/'April (part one)'..... Harvest HAR 5006 · July 1969 · nowhere
'Black night'/'Speed king'..... HAR 5020 · May 1970 · #2 UK
'Strange kind of woman'/'I'm alone'..... HAR 5033 · February 71 · #8 UK
'Fireball'/'Demon's eye'..... HAR 5045 · October 71 · #15 UK
'Never before'/'When a blind man cries'..... PUR 102 · March 1972 · #35 UK
'Woman from Tokyo'/'Super trouper'..... PUR 112 · February 73 · nowhere
'Smoke on the water'/'Tokyo/Child'..... PUR 137 · April 1977 · #21 UK
'New live and rare' (EP)..... PUR 135 · October 1977 · #31 UK
Line-up #3 'Might just take your life'/'Coronarias redig'.. PUR 117 · March 1974 · nowhere
Line-up #4 'You keep on moving'/'Love child'..... PUR 130 · March 1976 · nowhere
Line-up #3 'Burn'/'Coronarias redig'/'Mistreated'.... PUR 137 · September 78 · #45 UK

Deep Purple had two top ten singles in USA: 'Hush' and 'Smoke on the water'. Both reached number 4.

JAMES GANG #4/5 DECEMBER 1971 TO JULY 1974

Joe Walsh was replaced by Troiano (on the basis that the combination was spent after 2 albums), by Bolin, who arrived for the Salvage operation in August 1973. Of course, neither outfit had the cachet of the Walsh band. The Bolin line-up cut two albums for Atco: 'BANG' (K 50028 · Nov 73) and 'MIAMI' (K 50068 · July 74). Bolin, recommended by Joe Walsh, had joined after a 15 minute audition; 8 of the songs on 'BANG' were his. Their stage show incorporated flash powder, balloons, parachutes and artificial snow. They decided to split.

DOMINIC TROIANO (guitar, to the Guess Who) · ROY KENNER (vocals) · JIM FOX (drums) · DALE PETERS (bass) · TOMMY BOLIN (guitar)

Fox and Peters re-formed group in Jan 1975

DEEP PURPLE #3 JUNE 1973 TO MAY 1975

Purple, impressed by Coverdale's tone, asked him to send a photo. He sent one of him in scout uniform - all he had! He got the job and they secluded themselves in Clearwell Castle to prepare 'Burn' prior to embarking on the third phase of their rocky ascension. After two top ten albums and inordinate touring, Blackmore felt he should make a graceful exit: "It started getting into this 'Look, I'm going. I don't want to break up the band, but I'm off'".

GLENN HUGHES (bass) · DAVID COVERDALE (vocals) · JON LORD (keyboards) · IAN PAICE (drums) · RITCHIE BLACKMORE (guitar)

Between Zephyr and the James Gang, Bolin became involved in ENERGY, a jazz-rock group also including Gil Evans, Jeremy Steig, Jan Sheldon and Jeff Cook... (They couldn't get a record deal!) Bolin did several sessions, played on a Blue Note album 'MIND TRANSPLANT' (BNLA 398 G), and guested on Billy Cobham's 'SPECTRUM' (Atlantic K 40506 · Oct 73). After Dave Clempson had been tested and found unsuitable, Bolin was invited to audition as Ritchie Blackmore's replacement. "We all just stood there in amazement" said Coverdale. Bolin got the job.

Deep Purple finally expired after a 5 gig British tour. Observers at the Empire Pool Wembley gig maintained the band had decomposed into 2 warring factions: Jazz-funk-cool (Bolin and Hughes) versus traditional heavy metal (the other 3). Nobody was happy with the way things had deteriorated - but by the time they split, all their albums had gone gold, and two ('Made in Japan' and 'Machine Head') had achieved platinum status.

DEEP PURPLE #4 JUNE 1975 TO MARCH 1976

Recorded final studio album and embarked on world tour (Nov 1975 to March 1976, encompassing Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, America and Europe). On completion, it was decided to knock the group on the head. The official announcement was delayed until July 76. Manager Rob Cooksey explained that split was due not to personality clash, but the fact that "their talents have outgrown Purple". The Guiness Book of Records proclaimed them "the world's loudest band" (Is that any kind of obituary for a multi-million pound organisation?)

Jon Lord released four solo albums: 'GEMINI SUITE' (Purple TPSA 7501 · April 1972) with the LSO and guests. 'WINDOWS' (Purple TPSA 7513 · April 74) with Munich Chamber Opera Orchestra and guests. 'FIRST OF THE BIG BANDS' (Purple TPS 3507 · April 74) with Tony Ashton. (Lord and Ashton assembled a huge band to promote this album with two concerts at the London Palladium on Sunday Sept 15th 1974). 'SARABANDE' (Purple TPSA 7516 · November 1976). Lord sees these as extra-curricular projects which balance the demands of Purple's recording and touring routines.

GLENN HUGHES (bass) · DAVID COVERDALE (vocals) · JON LORD (keyboards) · IAN PAICE (drums) · TOMMY BOLIN (guitar)

TRAPEZE #2 JUNE TO DEC 1976

Hughes rejoined to play "really aggressive funky rock music", and, after summer tours of UK and US were postponed, finally went on the road in November 1976 for US comeback. He walked out midway through tour, never to return, and later released a solo album: 'PLAY ME OUT (Safari Lands 2 · April 1978). Has subsequently gone to ground. Trapeze meanwhile, took on 2 new guys and carried on (albums on Warners).

DAVE HOLLAND (drums) · MEL GALLEY (guitar/vocals) · GLENN HUGHES (bass/vocals)

Had previously toured as Blue Jays road band.

David "unknown boutique salesman from Redcar" Coverdale quit Purple 5 minutes after the last gig in Liverpool and almost immediately started work on first solo album, 'WHITE SNAKE' (Purple TPS 3509 · May 1977) - produced by Roger Glover in Munich and featuring session men (incl. Mick Moody, later to join his band after playing on the Second Album too). Was invited to sing on First Rainbow album and last gig in P.A.L. (which would have made it C.L.A.P.). Turned down both after due consideration - but observed their progress and, when he resumed musical activities, was able to avoid pitfalls they'd met ....like starting on too grand a scale.

PAICE ASHTON & LORD AUGUST 1976 TO SEPTEMBER 1977

As soon as Purple crumbled, Paice and Lord began to assemble P.A.L. Ashton, an old cohort, was an obvious choice. Marsden, then with Babe Ruth, rushed down to audition at Cozy Powell's suggestion and Martinez (ex Seretch) was recruited from an MM small ad. Released album, 'MALICE IN WONDERLAND' (Oyster 2391 249 · Feb 1977), and took to the road for a 20 date European tour (including 5 UK dates) on March 1st 1977. (Ashton contrived to fall into the Rainbow's orchestra pit, but bravely carried on). They broke up leaving an unfinished second album in the can. Paice, Lord and Martinez (plus Andy Mackay and Geoff Whitehorn) backed Maggie Bell at the Royal Festival Hall on 16th July 1978.

BERNIE MARSDEN (guitar) · JON LORD (keyboards) · IAN PAICE (drums, sessions) · PAUL MARTINEZ (bass, to John Otway) · TONY ASHTON (keybd/voc, producing)

TOMMY BOLIN BAND APRIL TO DEC 1976

Following Purple's inglorious final tour, Bolin wasted no time assembling a road band. Toured USA (clubs mostly, plus dates with Robin Trower/Steve Marriote package) during April/May 1976, but not to fanatic reception. Eye witnesses suggest that he was well out of it much of the time. His first solo album, 'TEASER' (K 50208 · Nov 75), reached #86 in US and the follow-up, 'PRIVATE EYES' (CBS 81612 · Dec 76), reached #38. On Saturday 4th December 1976, after a gig supporting Jeff Beck in Miami, cops were summoned to Bolin's hotel room when his girlfriend was unable to wake him. An autopsy revealed various drugs polluting his blood, though actual cause of death was heroin OD.

TOMMY BOLIN (gtr/voc, died) · REGGIE McBRIDE (bass, ex Rare Earth) · MICHAEL WALDEN (drums, ex Mahavishnu) · MARK STEIN (keybd/vocals, ex Vanilla Fudge) · NORMA JEAN BELL (sax/vocals, ex Zappa/Stevie Wonder)

WHITE SNAKE #1 JANUARY TO JULY 1978

(Actually known as David Coverdale's White Snake during this period). Opened debut UK tour at Nottingham Sky Bird Club on 23-2-78. The tour, a small venue "back to the roots" effort, ran through March - after which Johnston (ex Streetwalkers) was replaced by Solley (ex Snafu/Procol/etc). In this form they released an EP: 'SNAKE BITE' (Sunburst INEP 751 · June 1978). Post-Purple contractual tangles had prevented Coverdale from doing live work - and he was delighted to return: "It was like cutting a junkie's heroin off!"

This group toured to promote 'NORTH WINDS' (Purple TPS 3513 · March 1978), though only Moody had played on it. Moody had been in Snafu, Juicy Lucy and Frankie Miller's Band among others. Dowle had been with Brian Auger and Streetwalkers. Murray was in Colosseum and National Health. Marsden had been in a number of groups including UFO, Wild Turkey, Cozy Powell and P.A.L.

replaced PETE SOLLEY (keyboards, producing) · BRIAN JOHNSTON (keyboards, sessions) · MICK MOODY (guitar) · DAVID DOWLE (drums) · NEIL MURRAY (bass) · DAVID COVERDALE (vocals) · BERNIE MARSDEN (guitar)

For further info on all the people mentioned on this chart, send a S.A.E. to Simon Robinson, Deep Purple Appreciation Society, 8 Herbert Road, Nether Edge, Sheffield S7 1RL. His publication is the best of its kind in the world - everything you could ever wish to know.

During his Purple period Ian Gillan enjoyed great success as vocalist on the original recording of 'JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR' (MCA MKPS 2011/2 · December 1971), which reached #6 in UK. (He played the part of Jesus Christ). On October 16th 1975 appeared in stage version (Albert Hall) of 'Butterfly Ball' - taking over from indisposed Ronnie Dio, who'd been on the album. In the main, he confined his activities to his investments: Kingsway Studios (doing very well), a motorcycle business in Salisbury, and a hotel in the Thames Valley (which subsequently went into liquidation through no fault of his). Returned to concentrated activity on the music scene in Sept 75.

IAN GILLAN BAND SEPT 1975 TO JUNE 1978

Originally called Shangrenade, they went to Munich to cut 'CHILD IN TIME' (Oyster 2490 136 · July 76). Left Oyster December 1976, signed with Island March 1977. Two Island albums: 'CLEAR AIR TURBULENCE' (ILPS 9500 · April 1977) and 'SCARABUS' (ILPS 9511 · October 1977). On live front, band first hit the road in April 1976 with 13 date French tour (after which Soule was replaced by Towns). First toured UK in April 77. Huge in Japan, where they recorded 'LIVE IN BUDOKAN' VOLS 1 & 2' (neither released in UK, though limited edition under consideration). Towns recorded solo album 'FULL CIRCLE' (Virgin V 2093 · March 1978). Band were all seasoned session players, able to play in any style - so they didn't have their own style to develop as a unit.

IAN GILLAN (vocals) · COLIN TOWNS (keyboards) · replaced MICKEY LEE SOULE (keyboards, ex Elf, Rainbow) · MARK NAUSEEF (drums, to Thin Lizzy) · JOHN GUSTAFSON (bass, returned to sessions) · RAY FENWICK (guitar)

WHITE SNAKE #2 AUGUST 1978 TO THE PRESENT

Lord arrived to solidify keyboard department. His first gig with them was at Newcastle on 26-10-78. This was the first date of a cinema/civic hall tour culminating at Hammersmith Odeon on 23-11-78 - neatly avoiding any correlation with the new album 'TROUBLE' (EMI Int. INS 3022 · December 1978). Started 1979 with a short German tour, and are currently mapping out plans for debut American tour. Did a Hammersmith Odeon concert on 3rd March 1979 in aid of the Gunnar Nilsson Cancer Treatment Campaign. (This family tree was put together in March 1979. Copyright © Pete Frame, March 79).

MICK MOODY (guitar) · DAVID DOWLE (drums) · NEIL MURRAY (bass) · DAVID COVERDALE (vocals) · BERNIE MARSDEN (guitar) · JON LORD (keyboards)

Hello and thanks to Brian Hogg, Pontus Von Tell, Arnie Goodman, Pete Makowski, Jennie Halsall, Keith Goodwin, the Dafydd Rees Archives, Barry Lazell, John Tobler, John Tracy, Andy Childs, Nick Simper, Carlo Little, Roger Glover, Ian Gillan, Ritchie Blackmore, Dennis Munday, Bernadette Kilmartin, Jon Lord, Alan Timms, Geoff Barton, David Coverdale, Peter Donne, and particularly Simon Robinson.....good people all, who went out of their way to provide me with details. I appreciate it. Bollocks to the wankers who couldn't be bothered. For Robert Gurney, Mel the Bell, & all the other Marston loonies! Researched & drawn by PETE FRAME

GILLAN AUGUST 1978 TO THE PRESENT

Originally put together to play the Reading Festival on 27th August 1978, after which Genocky split to join Gerry Rafferty. Did German and Japanese tours and are currently focussing on UK circuit with extensive touring. In final stages of negotiating a new record deal; album already recorded, 'GILLAN'. Over Christmas 1978, Gillan patiently listened to Ritchie Blackmore's 4 day discourse on why they should re-unite but rejected the suggestion on the basis of 'to thine own self be true'. Of this new band, Byrd and McCoy had played in Zebra, and Byrd and Barnacle had backed Sonja Kristina. Gillan first heard Barnacle and McCoy recording Neo's album at Kingsway.

IAN GILLAN (vocals) · COLIN TOWNS (keyboards) · STEVE BYRD (guitar) · JOHN McCOY (bass) · replaced PETE BARNACLE (drums) · LIAM GENOCKY (drums)